

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN DON RYAN**, on January 29, 2007 at 3:07 P.M., in Room 303 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Sen. Don Ryan, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)  
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)  
Sen. Carol C. Juneau (D)  
Sen. Sam Kitzenberg (D)  
Sen. Dan McGee (R)  
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)  
Sen. Bob Story Jr. (R)

##### **Members Excused:**

Sen. Jim Elliott (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Casey Barrs, Legislative Branch  
Marigail Schreiner, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only.

They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 225, SB 291, SB 307, 1/23/2007  
Executive Action: None.

00:00:00 Opening comments by Chairman Ryan

**HEARING ON SB 291**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:07 **SEN. GARY PERRY (R), SD 35**, opened the hearing on **SB 291**, Allow creation of high school districts.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:07:23 Ann Marie Mistretta, Superintendent, Big Sky

00:17:59 Nick Mauri, Sophomore High School Student from Big Sky

00:21:19 Kelly Goode, Big Sky

00:23:43 Jeremy Harder, 4th Grade Teacher from Ophir School, Big Sky

00:25:30 Senator McGee left the meeting.

00:26:46 Bhrea Henley, 8th Grader from Ophir School

00:28:07 Caroline Henley, Big Sky

00:31:57 Jennifer Spiess Parent from Big Sky

00:35:38 Michele Mauri, Parent of a high school student from Big Sky

00:38:32 Chris Monroe, physical therapist, wife and mother from Big Sky

**EXHIBIT (eds19a01)**

00:42:56 Lance Child, Big Sky resident

00:46:54 Dr. Jim Eidson, Retired doctor residing now in Big Sky

00:49:08 Loren Bough, Resident Big Sky

00:51:11 Joe Lamson, representing Linda McCulloch, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:52:07 Michael Redburn, Superintendent of Bozeman Public  
Schools

**EXHIBIT(eds19a02)**

01:02:56 Doug Walsh, Superintendent of Schools in Ennis

01:03:57 Rep. Diane Rice, HD 71

**Informational Testimony:**

01:05:27 Tom Butler, Captain, Montana Highway Patrol, Belgrade

**EXHIBIT(eds19a03)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:07:35 Chairman Ryan to Superintendent Walsh

01:08:47 Sen. Hawks to Sen. Perry

01:09:53 Chairman Ryan to Superintendent Redburn

01:12:22 Chairman Ryan to Mr. Bough

01:14:11 Chairman Ryan to Superintendent Redburn

01:16:17 Sen. Story to Ann Marie Mistretta, Superintendent, Big  
Sky

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:18:42 Sen. Perry

01:22:12 Sen. Kitzenberg assumed the chair so that Chairman Ryan  
could present SB 307.

**HEARING ON SB 307**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:22:41 **SEN. DON RYAN (D), SD 10**, opened the hearing on **SB 307**,  
Limit use of taxpayer money to sue for more state  
funding.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:27:23 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayer's Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:29:32 Pete Carparelli, Montana Quality Education Coalition

**EXHIBIT (eds19a04)**

01:38:13 Darrell Rud, Executive Director, School Administrators  
of Montana

01:41:13 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association

01:46:45 Joe Lamson, on behalf of Superintendent of Public  
Instruction Linda McCulloch

01:48:38 Erik Burke, MEA/MFT

**Informational Testimony:**

01:51:05 Jeff Feiss, Citizen and former member of the Helena  
School Board

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:51:45 Sen. Peterson to Peter Carparelli

02:03:09 Sen. McGee to Peter Carparelli

02:05:54 Sen. Story to Sen. Ryan

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:13:25 Sen. Ryan

02:15:44 Chairman Ryan assumed the chair.

**HEARING ON SB 225**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:16:07 **SEN. LYNDIA MOSS (D), SD 26**, opened the hearing on **SB  
225**, May choose new mill levy election date after  
legislative session.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:17:46 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association

02:19:19 Roger Heimbigner, Laurel School District

02:20:28 Darrell Rud, School Administrators of Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:20:59 None

**Informational Testimony:**

02:21:04 None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:21:09 Sen. McGee to Sen. Moss

02:22:53 Sen. McGee to Roger Heimbigner

02:24:51 Sen. Black to Lance Melton

02:26:49 Sen. Story to Lance Melton

02:28:41 Chairman Ryan to Lance Melton

02:32:03 Sen. Story to Lance Melton

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:32:53 Sen. Moss

02:34:49 Comments by Chairman Ryan

02:35:30 Comments by Sen. McGee

02:35:50 Sen. Peterson to Chairman Ryan

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:39 P.M.

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SEN. DON RYAN, Chairman

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MARIGAIL SCHREINER, Secretary

DR/ms

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([eds19aad.pdf](#))**